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OXC 1689 /  
Copy 1 of 1

22 JUN 1961

**MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Development Branch, DPD**  
**SUBJECT: Night Aerial Refueling for OXCART**

1. During the approximate four month period from 20 October to 20 February, total darkness or twilight exists throughout the polar area north of latitude 50-00 North. Inasmuch as OXCART operational missions will be air refueled in the Arctic and Polar regions, a night aerial refueling capability for the A-12 vehicle is considered essential.

2. Hardware-wise, illumination of the A-12 refueling receptacle may be all that is required. Possibly, the reference lights on the KC-135 tanker will require repositioning. In addition, night refueling operations will demand a highly reliable and effective rendezvous system.

3. It is requested that you take action to provide for a night aerial refueling capability for OXCART.

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Major USAF

Acting Chief, Special Projects Branch

cc: AC/DPD  
DPD/EO  
DPD/SA/TAS  
DPD/DB

DPD/SPB  
DPD/RI

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DPD/SPB  ph (22 June 61)

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